

## Mandy M. Williams, P.Geol., Co-Founder, GeoWomen of Calgary



Mandy M. Williams, PGeol., has been working as a geologist in the petroleum industry for the past 18 years. Her experience covers conventional and unconventional reservoirs within the Western Canadian Sedimentary Basin and has focused for the last many years on the Mississippian carbonates of the Williston Basin. Ms. Williams is currently the Senior Geologist at Burgess Creek Exploration, building a light-oil focused company through internally generated prospects in southeast Saskatchewan.

In 2014, Mandy Williams co-founded GeoWomen of Calgary with one of her mentors, Jocelyn Keith-Asante (1993 Tracks Award Winner), a grass-roots organization established with the idea of providing a place to network and share successes of the women in geoscience professions in Calgary. When their first event, held at the Devonian Gardens on a cold, February night, attracted over 70 women, they realized just how keen women in the industry were to connect with one another.

One of the CSPG's three goals, is to develop a sense of community for all geoscientists, and in 2017, GeoWomen of Calgary became a committee of the CSPG, which Mandy co-chairs, providing further opportunity and reach to support and promote women as members of the CSPG. GeoWomen is focused on three founding pillars: Recruitment, Retention and Recognition. They hold a monthly Speaker Series on topics ranging from Critical Minerals and Sustainable Energy, to APEGA's WAGE Grant Study (Women and Gender Equality Canada): "Women in the Workplace: A Shift in Industry Work Culture". In May 2022, they will be hosting Board Ready Women, for a talk entitled "Positioning Yourself to Sit on a Board". Everyone is welcome to attend and registration is through the CSPG.

Mandy's efforts have helped strengthen our geoscience community and have established a welcoming and supportive environment for women, and everyone else, in the geosciences through her work with GeoWomen of Calgary. Besides her position with GeoWomen, Mandy also volunteers on the CSPG Thesis Award Committee and has volunteered as a CSEG Mentor for 5 years, where in 2020, she was named the "2020 CSEG Mentor of the Year". Her passion in supporting others is also evidenced by her nomination of mentees and colleagues for various scholarships and awards. She has generously nominated or provided letters of reference for her past mentees, several of whom have received awards and scholarships through her efforts, including: The Alberta Women in STEM scholarship, the L. Austin Weeks Grant and the Persons Case Scholarship. Her nominees were also selected as recipients of the CSPG 2020 Stanley Slipper Gold Medal and the 2021 CSPG Patricia J. Lee Trailblazer Award. Of note, the Patricia J. Lee Trailblazer Award is the first CSPG award named after a woman. This award was established in 2021, in a collaborative effort between the CSPG and GeoWomen committee members.

Although this award is meant to be awarded to someone who has made "tracks" for others to follow, Mandy would rather be recognized as someone who had instead built a community for others to feel welcomed into. The career journey for a woman in energy can sometimes be a lonely trek. By building and supporting the community of strong, dedicated women we have in our industry, Mandy has certainly made that journey feel a little more welcoming and engaging.

## Mia Costigan, P. Geo

Mia Costigan began her energy career at the University of Calgary in 2006 with a Bachelor of Science in Geology. After graduating, Mia took on roles as a junior geologist with Perpetual Energy and then eventually Husky Energy, where she acquired her professional designation. While developing her career in geosciences, her versatility and leadership skills were recognized as she initiated company-wide geotechnical collaborative projects, resulting in effective cross functional teams and revenue growth through by passed oil targets and reserve additions.

Now a technically versatile Geologist with over 12 years' experience in the energy industry. Mia has successfully transitioned to the role of Corporate Development Manager. Combining technical and business experience to fuel achievement of strategic business goals.

Currently Mia works for Proton Technologies Canada, a cleantech startup company reviving the energy industry through novel hydrogen production. As a collaborative and innovative problem solver, with an inclusive leadership style, Mia has been a keystone in the long-term development and overall vision of Proton as it explores novel processes to produce hydrogen from oilfields. Additionally, she is an active member of CSPG as a committee and co-chair member with the Energy and Emerging Technology in Geoscience Symposium.



## Stephen Grasby



Stephen Grasby is a Research Scientist at the Geological Survey of Canada where he has worked since being awarded a PhD from University of Calgary in 1997. Since that time he has worked in various projects across Canada, including all three territories and the High Arctic. He has applied geochemical skills to various issues ranging from petroleum source rock studies, paleoenvironment research, regional groundwater studies, nuclear waste storage, and geomicrobiology. Over the last 20 years he has lead the push to reinvigorate geothermal research in Canada. This includes the landmark assessment of Canada's geothermal resource potential published in 2012.

Steve first joined the CSPG as an undergrad student and then began volunteering once he joined the GSC. This includes serving as chair of the Hydrogeology Division, as well as being a member on the convention committee, and serving on the organising committee for GeoCanada 2010. He initiated the popular Gussow Conference series including chairing the first two events and over the years he has led or co-led numerous CSPG field trips in western Canada. Steve continues to support to the growth of the CSPG, he most recently helped develop the EETiG (Energy and Emerging Technology in Geoscience) conference series which included co-chairing the first event.